

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed on June 17, 2005, has been reviewed and the comments of the Patent and Trademark Office have been considered. Prior to this paper, claims 20-24 and 26-39 were pending. By this paper, Applicants cancel claims 26-30 and claim 39 without prejudice or disclaimer, and place claim 31 into independent form. Therefore, claims 20-24 and 31-38 are now pending.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance for at least the reasons that follow.

Allowed Claims and Indication of Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank Examiner Gray for allowing claims 20-24 and 32-38, and for indicating that claim 31 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, as seen above, Applicants have placed claim 31 into independent form.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

In the Office Action, Claims 26-30 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over a combination of seven separate references. In response, in order to advance prosecution, Applicants cancel claims 26-30 and claim 39, as discussed above, and place claim 31 into independent form. Applicants respectfully submit that the obviousness rejections are now moot in view of the above amendments.

Conclusion

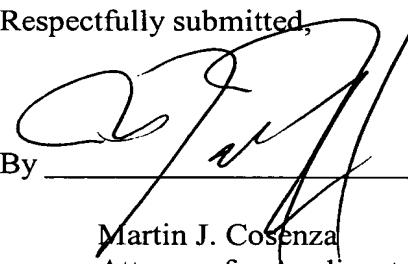
Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Examiner Gray is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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